TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 23rd November, 1922.

The Council met in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Eleven Thirty of the Clock. The President was in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President under Standing Order No. 12*—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in serial order, specify the serial number of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place, if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Roman Catholics and Mahomedans in the Judiciary.

62. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN: Is there any one among the Tahsildars, Tahsildar-Magistrates, Stationary Magistrates, First Class Magistrates, District Magistrates and the Judges of the country, who is a Roman Catholic or a Mahomedan?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: There are no Roman Catholics or Mahomedans among the District Judges. Among the Munsiffs there is no Mahomedan, but there are two Catholics. Among the Tahsildars, Tahsildar-Magistrates, Stationary Magistrates, First Class Magistrates and District Magistrates, there is no Roman Catholic or Mahomedan.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN: May I know whether Roman Catholic Syrians are also included in the statement given in the answer?

MR. KRISHNA PILLAI: They are also included.

Combating the Disease known as Yaws.

63. MR. K. DOMINIC TOMMAN: (1) Are the Government aware of the existence of a disease called 'yaws' in the State, especially in the taluks of Devicolam, Todupuzha, Meenachil, Changanachery, Peermade, Tiruvalla, Chengannur and Pattanamtitta?

(2) Are they also aware that this disease is very contagious and more prevalent among the poorer classes, incapacitating them for work and even making them unable to move about?

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[Mr. R. Krishna Pillai.]

(3) If so, will the Government be pleased to make an investigation of the disease?

(4) Will the Government be pleased to take steps to fight out the disease, both by preventive and curative measures, utilising the most up-to-date methods available?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (1) and (2) The answer is in the affirmative.

(3) and (4). The prevalence of the disease among the poorer classes has already engaged the attention of the Darbar Physician and he has brought it to the notice of Government. The special officer now deputed for investigating malaria in the Padmanabhapuram Division will, in due course, visit the parts affected with 'yaws' and carry out his investigation on the subject.

The Champakad or Anjanad Irrigation Scheme.

64. MR. K. DOMINIC TOMMAN: (1) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the papers connected with the Champakad or Anjanad Irrigation Scheme in the Talayar valley?

(2) Are the Government aware that private agencies are prepared to undertake the irrigation work, if they are only permitted to divert a small quantity of water from the Pambayar?

(3) Are they also aware that the tail water after irrigating the Champakad fields will rejoin the Pambayar lower down?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (1) Office files will not be placed on the table of the House.

(2) No private applications of any recent date have been received.

(3) Yes. But there is no information as to how much of the water will rejoin the river at the tail end.

Government Press.

65. MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a list showing the following particulars regarding the printing machines and other accessories for printing and for moulding and casting type in the Government Press:

(i) the number and names of the machines and their value;

(ii) the date of purchase;

(iii) the number and names of the accessories and their value and date of purchase; and

(iv) whether all of them are in working order now?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (i) & (ii) A statement * received from the Superintendent, Government Press, showing the number and names of the machines and their value with dates of purchase, is appended.

(iii) As regards the number and names of the accessories, it is reported that, as there is a large number of accessories of varying description that go along with the machinery, a comprehensive list of all of them cannot be prepared.

* *Vide* Appendix I-page 235.

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